

Childhood Asthma Initiative

Community Asthma Intervention

Asthma Management and Education

The Community Asthma Intervention Program funds eight community-based organizations and local health departments to provide coordinated asthma management and education to families of children with asthma under age five. Trained community asthma coordinators work closely with families to help them get their child's asthma under control, increase their confidence in managing their child's asthma, and communicate more effectively with their health and childcare providers. Asthma coordinators also help to establish a medical home

for children with asthma and facilitate their enrollment in health insurance programs.

Quality Improvement in Healthcare

Healthcare providers also benefit from taking part in Community Asthma Intervention activities. The program sponsors a statewide Asthma Management Quality Improvement Collaborative, aimed at helping clinics provide high quality asthma care for their youngest patients. Clinicians receive training and support for improving practices based on the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute's Asthma Management

Guidelines, recognized as the gold standard in asthma care.

Childcare Provider Education

The Community Asthma Intervention Program promotes effective asthma management in the childcare setting. Experienced asthma coordinators and health educators provide training on basic asthma facts, appropriate administration of asthma medications, and the identification of asthma triggers in the indoor environment for both large daycare centers and family daycare homes.

The majority of children with asthma develop symptoms before 5 years of age. Early diagnosis and management of asthma help children breathe easier and lead healthy, active lives.



COMMUNITY

ASTHMA

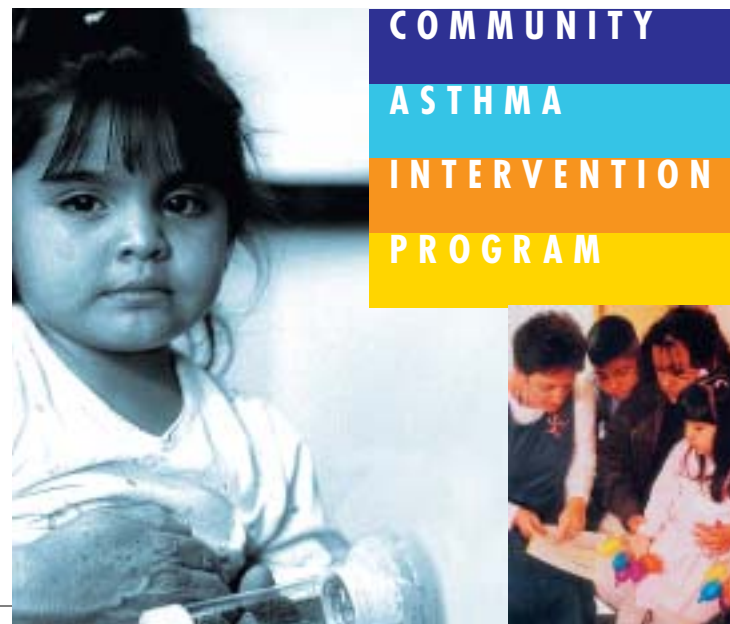
INTERVENTION

PROGRAM

hood Asthma

Asthma is a chronic respiratory disease that has an enormous impact on the health of California's children. Asthma adversely affects the quality of life of both children with asthma and their families. Asthma can cause restriction in many of a child's normal activities, nights of lost sleep, and disruption in the daily routines of the child and his/her family. Asthma accounts for more lost school days per year than any other chronic disease and is the leading cause of childhood hospitalizations in California.

Asthma, however, is a disease that can be effectively managed. Significant illness, hospitalization, and even death due to asthma are preventable through up-to-date medical treatment, education, and environmental change. Adequate asthma management in young children results in substantial improvements in school performance and learning throughout childhood.



Childhood Asthma Initiative Components

Community Collaboration

- Coalition Building
- Partnerships with Childcare Providers
- Linking Community Resources
- Environmental Policy Change

Asthma Coordinator Services

- Family Asthma Education
- Environmental Home Assessment
- Provider-Patient Communication
- Referrals to Community Resources

Asthma Treatment Services

- Medication and Treatment for Uninsured and Under-Insured Children
- Referrals to Medi-Cal and Healthy Families

Quality Improvement in Clinical Asthma Care

- Clinical Provider Education
- CHDP Provider Education
- Systems Change

Program Evaluation and Research

- Community Specific Project Assessments
- Comprehensive Statewide Evaluation
- Research on Asthma in the Childcare Environment



Grantland Johnson
Secretary
California Health and Human
Services Agency

The Community Asthma Intervention is supported by funds received from the California Children and Families Commission in partnership with the California Department of Health Services and the University of California, San Francisco.

For more information about the Community Asthma Intervention Program, please contact us at (916) 445-8566 or visit our web site at: www.dhs.ca.gov/asthma.

Gray Davis
Governor
State of California

Diana M. Bontá, RN, DrPH
Director
California Department of
Health Services



Community Asthma Intervention Projects

Alameda County Public Health Department
East and West Oakland

American Lung Association of the Central Coast
Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Luis Obispo Counties

American Lung Association of Los Angeles
San Fernando Valley

American Lung Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties
Central and South Bay Areas

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America/Southern California
Downtown, South, and South Central Los Angeles

Asthma Education and Resource Council
Marin County

Darin M. Camarena Health Centers, Inc.
Madera County

San Francisco Department of Public Health
City and County of San Francisco

Childhood Asthma Initiative

